

efforts culminated in a June 22 meeting with representatives of the DNC, the Re-election Campaign and the White House. Though Sullivan had requested Ickes's participation, and understood initially that Ickes would attend, the White House was represented at the meeting by Craig Smith of the White House Office of Political Affairs, not Ickes.⁵²⁸ Initially, Crain also wanted to combine the June meeting with a specific Indian fund-raising event, but Berger rejected the idea as premature. Nonetheless, Crain and Berger presented this entire effort as cultivation of the fertile Democratic fund-raising prospects within the Indian gaming community.

Also in May 1995, Fowler met for the first time with Kevin Gover and Catherine Baker Stetson of New Mexico, who offered their assistance to the DNC in its Indian outreach. Gover, a Pawnee Sioux Indian, had helped organize Native Americans for Clinton/Gore in 1992, and had national contacts in the Indian community. Stetson, his law partner, was committed primarily to an Indian law practice, and was active with New Mexico Democratic politics, especially in fund-raising efforts.⁵²⁹ Fowler met with Gover and Stetson in Albuquerque on May 28, where they hosted a meeting with New Mexico Indian leaders at their firm's offices.⁵³⁰ Gover and Stetson also became actively involved in planning and staging the June 22 meeting in Washington.⁵³¹

⁵²⁸Berger's planning materials reflect that Pequot Chairman Skip Hayward and the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe were among initial invitees, but Hayward did not attend. Chairwoman Marge Anderson attended on behalf of the Mille Lacs.

⁵²⁹Stetson was reportedly the top Clinton/Gore fund-raiser in New Mexico in 1992.

⁵³⁰A principal issue on the agenda at that time was Indian gaming in New Mexico.

⁵³¹A June 19 briefing memo Gover and Stetson sent the DNC and Re-election Campaign in anticipation of the June 22 meeting laid out a number of points, including these:

You are fighting a perception that your Indian supporters are treated no better than
(continued...)